

JUL 0 2 2004

Robert Greene Sterne Edward J. Kessler Jorge A. Goldstein David K.S. Cornwell Robert W. Esmond Tracy-Gene G. Durkin Michael B. Ray Robert E. Sokohl Eric K. Steffe Michael Q. Lee Steven R. Ludwig John M. Covert Linda E. Alcorn Robert C. Millonig Donald J. Featherstone Lawrence B. Bugaisky Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim Timothy J. Shea, Jr. Patrick E. Garrett Heidi L. Kraus Albert L. Ferro\* Donald R. Banowit Peter A. Jackman Teresa U. Medler Jeffrey S. Weaver Kendrick P. Patterson Vincent L. Capuano Eldora Ellison Floyd Thomas C. Fiala Brian J. Del Buono Virgil Lee Beaston Kimberly N. Reddick Theodore A. Wood Joseph S. Ostroff Frank R. Cottingham Christine M. Lbulier Rae Lynn Prengaman Jane Shershenovich' George S. Bardmesser Daniel A. Klein' Jason D. Eisenberg Michael D. Specht Andrea J. Kamage Tracy L. Muller' LuAnne M. DeSantis John J. Figueroa Ann E. Summerfield Tiera S. Coston Aric W. Ledford' Jessica L. Parezo Timothy A. Doyle' Gaby L. Longsworth\* Nicole D. Dretar\* Ted J. Ebersole Jyoti C. Iyer\* Laura A. Vogel Registered Patent Age

Registered Patent Agents Karen R. Markowicz Nancy J. Leith Helene C. Carlson Matthew J. Dowd Aaron L. Schwartz Katrina Y. Pei Quach Bryan L. Skelton Robert A. Schwartzman Teresa A. Colella Jeffrey S. Lundgren Victoria S. Rutherford Michelle K. Holoubek Robert H. DeSelms Simon J. Elliott Julie A. Heider Mita Mukherjee Scott M. Woodhouse

Of Counsel Kenneth C. Bass III Evan R. Smith Marvin C. Guthrie

\*Admitted only in Maryland \* Admitted only in Virginia •Practice Limited to Federal Agencies

July 2, 2004

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER: (202) 772-8619 INTERNET ADDRESS: SCHWARTZ@SKGF.COM

Art Unit 1653

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re:

U.S. Utility Patent Application

Application No. 09/903,864; Filed: July 13, 2001

For: Methods and Compositions for Rapid Protein and Peptide Extraction

and Isolation Using a Lysis Matrix

Inventors:

Blakesley et al.

Our Ref:

0942.5050002/RWE/ALS

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

- 1. Fee Transmittal (Form PTO/SB/17);
- 2. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1);
- 3. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111;
- 4. Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038 for \$1,072.00 to cover:

\$950.00 Extension for response within third month;

36.00 Claims in excess of twenty; and

86.00 Independent claims in excess of three; and

5. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox PLLLC.: 1100 New York Avenue, NW: Washington, DC 20005: 202.371.2600 f202.371.2540: www.skgf.com

Commissioner for Patents July 2, 2004 Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Aaron L. Schwaftz
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 48,181

ALS/dab 283931\_1.DOC Enclosures

Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox PLLC. : 1100 New York Avenue, NW : Washington, DC 20005 : 202.371.2600 f 202.371.2540 : www.skgf.com